

2003-47

10/30/03 07:42AM >>>

This letter is being written in opposition to Court Rule No. 2003-47. I worked for General Motors for 30 years of my life with an excellent work history. I suffer with breathing problems and sleep with a vent each night. I have a chronic cough and shortness of breath. I have been diagnosed with asbestosis in my lungs. Due to an unhealthy work environment, not given the proper knowledge of asbestos being in the machinery that I worked with every day for 30 years, I have developed this condition which in time could lead to much worse for myself and family. Might I add that my family was also being contaminated as I brought this home to them on my clothing and skin. The crisis in the State of Michigan regarding asbestos litigation is the fact that big business, corporations, the asbestos industry and law firms like Dickinson Wright feel free to try to take working peoples' lawsuits out of court and away from juries. The Michigan Constitution as well as the United States Constitution makes it clear that judges are not to make the law but rather interpret the law. Why is the Michigan Supreme Court even considering taking steps that would effectively change the law by denying Michigan asbestos disease victims their right to a jury trial. The true facts, might I add, asbestos litigation in Michigan in the past four years? There has been ONE asbestos case tried to verdict in the entire State of Michigan, all other cases settle before trial. I urge you to listen to your people about this Court Rule. Many, like myself suffer for an act against them that should have never been. I have watched many of my friends die and many are suffering from asbestosis in their lungs. Someone needs to be held responsible for this environmental condition placed upon many and still may be that are suffering from this horrible disease.

Sincerely yours,
Robert Diegel